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VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Robert Beretsky
NJDEP, Division of Remediation Support
Responsible Party Investigations Unit
P.O. Box 028
Trenton, NJ 08625-0028

RE: Response to Request for Information Pursuant to the Spill Compensation and Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23 et seq.)
Margaret's Creek Contamination, Middlesex County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Beretsky:

This letter is submitted on behalf of NL Industries, Inc. ("NL") in response to the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's ("NJDEP") Request for Information (the "Request") under the Spill Compensation and Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23 et seq.), regarding the above-referenced site in Middlesex County, New Jersey (the "Site").

Nothing in this response shall constitute an admission of liability on the part of NL for the Site, and NL reserves its right to contest any allegation made against it with regard to the Site by any person or entity. By responding to the Request, NL does not intend to waive any applicable privilege, including but not limited to, the attorney-client privilege and the attorney-work product privilege. NL states that documents, some of which may have been responsive to questions contained in the Request, may have been disposed of in accordance with the normal business practices of NL prior to the receipt of the Request. NL can only respond to the extent it has documents which provide information responsive to the questions contained in the Request. NL reserves the right to supplement its response in the event that NL discovers additional information.

NL is submitting this response subject to and without waiving the following objections to the instructions contained within the Request. NL objects to the instructions to the extent they require NL to identify sources of information not in its possession, custody or control. NL further objects to the instructions to the extent they require NL to produce documents that would be protected from disclosure by the attorney-client privilege, attorney-work product privilege, or other applicable privileges. NL states that it will not produce such documents in response to the Request.

NL also objects to the definitions, specifically the definitions of "site," "identify," "hazardous material," "waste materials," "person," "materials," "release," "Respondent" and "you" as being vague, overly broad, unduly burdensome, oppressive, causing unreasonable annoyance and harassment and substantial and unnecessary expense to NL. Without limiting the foregoing, NL can only respond, and will only respond, based upon documents in NL's possession or control and will not respond on behalf of successors and/or assigns.

Notwithstanding the foregoing objections, NL submits the following responses to the Request.

QUESTIONS

1. State the proper legal name of NL Industries, Inc. and identify any other name(s) under which it had done business.

RESPONSE:

NL Industries, Inc.
Three Lincoln Center
5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700
Dallas, TX 75240-2697

Prior to April 16, 1971, NL Industries, Inc. did business under the name National Lead Company.

2. Describe how NL Industries became involved with the subject site.

RESPONSE: NL has no information indicating that it generated, transported, treated or disposed of any "waste materials" at the Site. After a thorough and diligent search, NL has been unable to locate any responsive, non-privileged documents within its possession, custody or control regarding NL's purported involvement with the subject site.

3. Identify the owner(s) and operator(s) of the subject site during the period that NL Industries' waste materials were disposed of at the site.

RESPONSE: To the extent that this question suggests that NL disposed of waste materials at the Site, please see response to question 2. Further, after a thorough and diligent search, NL has been unable to locate any responsive, non-privileged documents within its possession, custody or control.

4. Identify each person having knowledge of the facts relating to the disposal of any waste material at the subject site from the 1930's to date. For each person identified, please provide the name, address, telephone number, and the basis of your belief that he or she has such knowledge. For past and present NL Industries employees include their job title and a description of their responsibilities.

RESPONSE: NL objects to this question as overbroad and unduly burdensome, oppressive, causing unreasonable annoyance and harassment and substantial and unnecessary expense to NL. NL also objects to this question to the extent that it requires NL to seek out former employees or other persons not affiliated with NL to obtain information. Such information as may be available to any former employee(s) or other person(s) not affiliated with NL is not in the possession, custody or control of NL. Subject to, and without waiving this and NL's other objections, NL has not been able to locate any current employee having knowledge of facts related to disposal of waste material at the Site.

5. In detail, describe all the "waste materials" that were generated by NL Industries and disposed of at the site.

RESPONSE: To the extent that this question suggests that NL disposed of waste materials at the Site, see response to question 2. After a thorough and diligent search, NL has been unable to locate any responsive, non-privileged documents within its possession, custody or control regarding NL's purported involvement with the Site and/or "waste materials" purportedly generated by NL and disposed of at the Site.

6. Provide a chronological history of known spills/releases/discharges of hazardous substances during NL Industries' use of the site. Provide a description of each incident including duration, location, substances involved and quantity of material spilled /released /discharged.

RESPONSE: NL objects to the term "use." See response to question 2.

7. Identify all other parties that generated waste materials disposed of at the subject site.

RESPONSE: To the extent that this question seeks information from NL regarding unrelated parties beyond the knowledge and/or control of NL, NL objects to this question as being overly broad, unduly burdensome, oppressive, causing unreasonable annoyance and harassment and substantial and unnecessary expense to NL. Subject to and without waiving this and NL's other objections, NL has been unable to locate any responsive, non-privileged documents within its possession, custody or control.

8. Identify all other parties that transported waste materials for disposal at the subject site.

RESPONSE: See response to question 7.

9. To the best of your ability, identify and describe all activities conducted at the site prior and subsequent to NL Industries' use of the site.

RESPONSE: NL objects to the term "use." See response to question 2 and question 7.

10. Submit the names of all representatives, employees, or contractors of NL Industries who have knowledge of operations of the subject site. Identify each such person or

company by name, address and telephone number. Include their job title, a description of their responsibilities, and the years they were associated with or employed by NL Industries.

RESPONSE: NL objects to this question as overbroad and unduly burdensome, oppressive, causing unreasonable annoyance and harassment and substantial and unnecessary expense to NL. NL also objects to this question to the extent that it requires NL to seek out former representatives, employees, or contractors of NL to obtain information. Such information as may be available to any former representatives, employees, or contractors is not in the possession, custody or control of NL. Subject to, and without waiving this and NL's other objections, NL has not been able to locate any person having knowledge of operations at the Site.

11. Describe any relationship or knowledge NL Industries has had with the following individuals or companies. To the best of your ability, provide the current or last known address(es) and telephone number(s) for each:

- a. Liberty Trucking Company
- b. Twin Anchors Marine Basin
- c. Almasi
- d. Stardrive, Inc.
- e. Lebar Co., Limited
- f. Cifelli Associates
- g. J.J. Cullen

RESPONSE: After a thorough and diligent search, NL has been unable to locate any responsive, non-privileged documents within its possession, custody or control.

12. Provide copies of all reports relating to the subject property. Specific documents requested include, but should not be limited to: internal inspection reports; regulatory compliance inspection reports; contractor generated reports; reports regarding the renovation, expansion or demolition of on-site structures; and all analytical data collected to date.

RESPONSE: To the extent that this question suggests that NL disposed of waste materials at the Site, see response to question 2. After a thorough and diligent search, NL has been unable to locate any responsive, non-privileged documents within its possession, custody or control.

13. Identify all other locations at which waste materials as described in Question 5 were disposed of. For each location, indicate the legal address, block and lot designation, the name of the current property owner and the name of the property owner at the time disposal occurred. Identify all parties that were responsible for transporting the waste material to each location.

RESPONSE: See response to question 5. To the extent that this question seeks information regarding "waste materials" of NL allegedly generated and disposed of at locations other than the Site, NL objects to this question as overly broad, unduly burdensome, oppressive, causing unreasonable annoyance and harassment and substantial

and unnecessary expense to NL. NL further objects to this question as not reasonably related to the subject matter of the NJDEP's investigation.

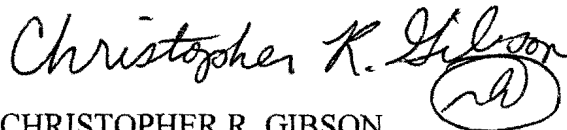
14. State whether there exists any agreement or contract which may indemnify NL Industries or its past and present officers against any liability that may result under the New Jersey Spill Compensation and Control Act for any release or threatened release of hazardous substances that may have occurred due to activities at the subject site. If so, please provide a copy of the agreement or contract. Identify any agreement or contract that you are unable to locate or obtain.

RESPONSE: To the extent that this question suggests that NL disposed of waste materials at the Site, see response to question 2. After a thorough and diligent search, NL has been unable to locate any responsive, non-privileged documents within its possession, custody or control.

15. State whether an insurance policy has ever been in effect which may indemnify NL Industries or its past and present officers against any liability that may result under the New Jersey Spill Compensation and Control Act for any release or threatened release of hazardous substances that may have occurred due to activities at the subject site. If so, please provide a copy of the policy. Identify any policy that you are unable to locate or obtain by the name of the carrier, years in effect, nature of coverage and related information.

RESPONSE: To the extent that this question suggests that NL disposed of waste materials at the Site, see response to question 2. After a thorough and diligent search, NL has been unable to locate any responsive, non-privileged documents within its possession, custody or control.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher R. Gibson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name. There is a small circular mark or flourish at the end of the signature.

CHRISTOPHER R. GIBSON